



MEDIA RELEASE

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Rosewood Dedication Kicks Off Community Development Week

Greenville, SC... An award-winning new residence filled with recycled and energy-efficient materials, furniture built by Perry inmates, and the chance for a better life for women in recovery was dedicated today with a ribbon cutting ceremony and facility tour. The Rosewood House of Recovery recently completed a 10-bed facility, expanding its resources to serve women in need.

Rosewood Board President Ellen Stevenson talked about the importance of the Rosewood program and acknowledged the community support for the agency. She said, "There are a lot of people who believe in the work accomplished at Rosewood. This new facility is a working tribute to the staff, the volunteers and the women who will come here to better their lives."

The ceremony was the first in a series of events celebrating Community Development Week. Mayor Pro-tem Lillian Brock Flemming formalized the occasion with a proclamation declaring week of April 21st as Community Development Week in the City of Greenville. Addressing the large crowd of supporters, Ms. Flemming talked about the need for partnerships to create successful development projects. "The City of Greenville believes in partnerships. The construction of this beautiful new facility demonstrates how effective and productive, working in partnership can be," she said. She also emphasized the importance of the Community Development program in Greenville stating, "The Community Development program enables cities like Greenville to address the physical, economic, and human services needs of our low- and moderate-income communities."

City Community Development Director Ginny Stroud emphasized the City's continued revitalization efforts, stating, "As we kick-off National Community Development Week, we also celebrate our achievements in neighborhood revitalization - two years ago, the Economic and Community Development staff, the Community Development Advisory Committee and City Council restructured our approach to neighborhood revitalization developing neighborhood Master Plans for revitalization and focusing our efforts on housing-related activities and public services that address the primary causes of poverty according to the needs identified by neighborhood residents. Affordable housing for special populations was one of the priorities identified in the assessment along with jobs training/ placement, home buyer education and youth education. "

The cost of construction of the new facility was \$1,071,413. Major funding partners included City of Greenville at \$160,000; HUD \$241,500; SC State Housing Finance and Development Authority, State Home,\$281,644,SC State Housing Finance and Development Authority, Trust Fund \$100,000. Additional donors include the Jolley Foundation, \$50,000; John I. Smith Charities \$50,000; Hartness International Charitable Foundation \$30,000; Greenville County Redevelopment Authority, \$12,000; Graham Foundation, \$10,000; and Carolina First, \$10,000.

The building, composed of many energy-efficient features, has already been nationally recognized, receiving the 2002 Energy Star for Small Business from the US Environmental Protection Agency.

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